

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



AS I SEE IT

Board to Welcome New Executive Director, Advisors in August

July 27, 2010

Next month's North Carolina State Board of Education meeting promises to be an exciting one with the release of the ABCs/AYP Accountability Report and high school graduation rates. In addition to receiving this important student performance report, Board members will also take time at the August meeting to welcome three talented new individuals to our team.

At the July meeting, members approved hiring Martez Hill as the Board's new Executive Director. He is the former chief deputy state superintendent in Mississippi and a graduate of the Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy and Emory University. With his strong background in organizational management and education policy and the work he has done at the national level, Martez will bring a unique and valuable set of skills to our work and I look forward to him assuming this leadership role with the Board.

In addition to our new Executive Director, there will be two more new faces at the August meeting. AT&T North Carolina 2010-11 Teacher of the Year Jennifer Facciolini, a social studies teacher at Midway High School in Sampson County and 2010-11 Wachovia Principal of the Year Jan King from Glenn C. Marlow Elementary School in Henderson County will be stepping into their new roles as teacher and principal advisors to the Board.

Jennifer and Jan will join last year's Teacher of the Year Jessica Garner and Principal of the Year Vann Pennell, who are now beginning their second year of service as advisors to our Board. These teacher and principal advisors have been quick to share their first-hand knowledge of the challenges educators face in our schools today. Policies and programs our Board discusses and adopts would not be as strong without this critical input. I speak for the entire Board when I say how grateful I am for the opportunity to learn from the state's top teachers and school leaders who understand so much about what is going on in our classrooms and schools.

August will be a busy month for students, parents, teachers and our State Board. I know the insight, wisdom and experience Martez, Jessica and Jan will offer will help us to be positive and productive during this time and throughout the year as we all work together to prepare every North Carolina student for a success in the future.

Bill Harrison, Chairman
State Board of Education